

Amateur Radio ⁱⁿ RUSSIA

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There must be very few Class A licences who have not worked a Russian station at some time or other — often very difficult to escape this, even if you try! Due to the political problems, there seems to be some mystique attached to their amateur radio activities. Non-ham visitors to the shack are likely to be more surprised at a QSO with a UA, than a 59 contact with Australia. This short article attempts to give you a bit of background, culled from many QSO's and information which has already been in print. Hopefully you won't be quite so in the dark after reading this.

The number of licences causes some debate with estimates higher than that of the USA. In fact, in 1981 there were just over 30,000 amateur stations, split between individual licences and club stations, with the first licences issued in 1927. This compares with over 400,000 in the States, and 25,000 in the UK (1981 figures).

