



## Buzin Watch No.9

True to pattern, another Buzin issue has emerged at the back end of January. But equally true to form, Bpost made no formal announcement and all the new release websites I have looked at reveal no information whatsoever. It's as if the new Buzin did not exist.

Only the Scharning website tells us that this offering is the Common Cuckoo, but doesn't tell us its value type or provide an image. I checked, and it is certainly a new addition to the Buzin aviary. I am grateful to member Steven Ardron for sharing the Bpost new issues booklet, which at least provides a clue. He had to buy it too! As far as I am aware, this is the only document where you will find details. It tells us that it is a large landscape format with a "Verenigingen|Associations" or VA value (€0.77) band. It was issued on the 25<sup>th</sup> January.

Whilst it is only for special use, it is still baffling why Belgium seems so reticent to publicise these stamps and yet manage to plug some not very inspiring mini-sheets (of which I am not a fan) as well as other curiosities. There are some very fine Belgian stamps and the design quality is usually very high, but seemingly commercialism - as with Royal Mail - has now come to the fore.

Apologies for the blurry image below, but it is the best I could do at the moment. I managed to track it down on a Stamp Digest website and the illustration was already not of the best quality. What is clear, is that Buzin still remains a very fine artist and that despite poor reproduction here, his talent still manages to shine through.



The latest Buzin - The Common Cuckoo