

## About your LAA Coach

### Andy Draper



Andy started flying in gliders in the late '70s from Booker.

Having specialised in composite materials at BAe following his apprenticeship with the company and with a desire to fly powered aircraft, it seemed the obvious choice to build a Rutan Long-EZ which flew for the first time in 1985, a month before he gained his PPL.

With around 400 hours of Long-EZ time in his logbook and a frozen CPL in his pocket, Andy went on to gain an AFI then FI rating, instructing at Denham airfield. When the economy took a dive in the early '90s and instructing no longer paying the bills, Andy went back to engineering to productionise the new to emerge Europa kit aircraft. During his 14 years at Europa, Andy carried out countless demo flights, test flying and pilot check-outs in Europas.

This experience and his instructing background led on to Andy becoming a Pilot Coach, CRI and 'R' Examiner. His home airfield is Turweston but would travel anywhere if circumstances were appropriate.

Andy is now with the LAA working in the Engineering department and flies whenever the opportunity arises.