

*In the spotlight...*

# Nathan Le Tissier

## ‘He’s down at the KGV practising every day’

A strong work ethic coupled with the desire to become a professional could see Nathan Le Tissier become a standout cricketer. **Matt Lihou** reports

HE HAS dreams of becoming a professional cricketer and according to his coach, Nathan Le Tissier could potentially achieve it in the years ahead.

The 15-year-old spinner has impressed regularly this season for Elizabeth College, as well as various club sides and for the Guernsey under-15s team, with his ability to take wickets while still bowling economically.

So much so that Ash Wright believes the teenager has what it takes to become a top-quality genuine all-rounder and who also has the mentality needed to reach the top.

Wright should know, too, because he was a professional county cricketer on the books of Leicestershire in his early 20s and is the brother of England international Luke.

‘What you find with all the players who go on to make it as professionals or at the top of the game is that they are willing to put in the hours required, they love the sport and will give it everything they have got,’ explained Wright.

‘In recent weeks Nathan has shown me he has got that in abundance, he is down at the KGV practising from 10am to 5pm every day, without fail.

‘His dream is to become a professional cricketer and he is doing everything in his power at the moment to try and make that happen – I have been so impressed with his work ethic.

‘There is no quick way to do it or no way to cut corners – all of the top players have had to put the hours in if they are to make it to where they have. ‘It is a long road ahead for Nathan and anybody else who has that dream, but the pathway is there and I don’t see any reason why he can’t achieve it.’

But while it is his spin bowling that has caught the eye, Wright sees a youngster who could yet become a key figure with both bat and ball in the years ahead.

‘In terms of his bowling, he can control the ball extremely well and that makes him an asset in any scenario of any game, but he is also a genuine wicket-taking option.

‘What we will be working with him over the winter hard is on giving the ball a really big spin and if he can add that to his game, then he will be even better.

‘But I am just as excited about his batting and what I really like about it is that it is uncomplicated, he does the simple stuff well and doesn’t overdo it. ‘He plays with a straight bat, he leaves the good balls and plays the bad balls, he takes the singles where they should be taken and puts the bad balls away.

‘Long term, I definitely see him as an opening batter and a bowler as well – a genuine all-rounder.’



Le Tissier at the crease for Canaccord Griffins.

(Picture supplied by Martin Gray)