



## Christmas candles

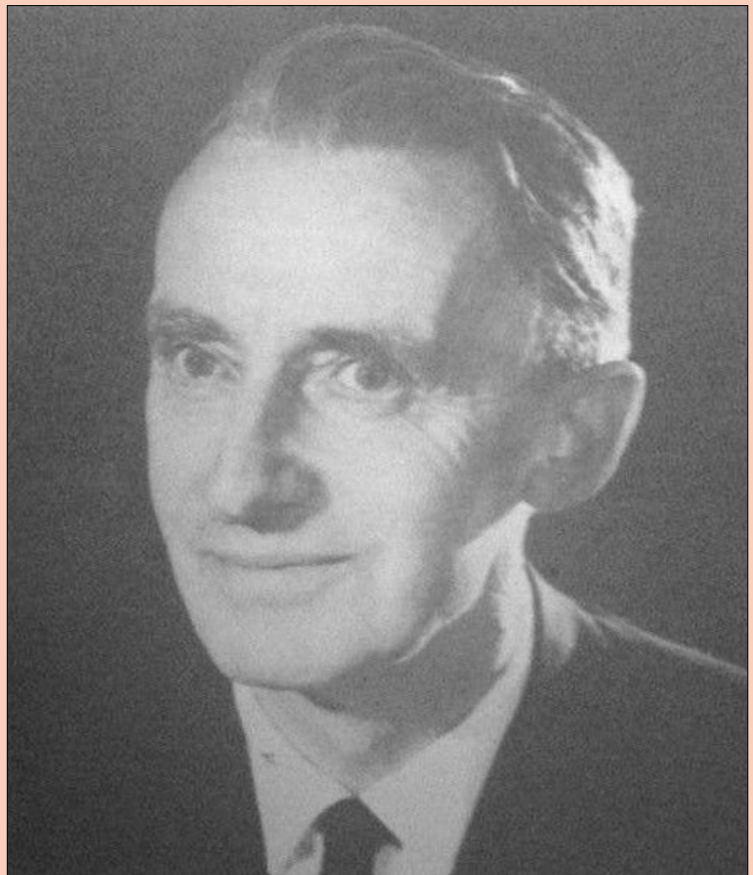
One... Two... Three –  
Help me count the candles  
On the Christmas tree

Four... Five... Six –  
I'll fix the candles,  
You can light the wicks.

Seven... Eight... Nine –  
In the winter twilight  
How beautiful they shine.

Three – times – three:  
What a lot of candles  
On the Christmas tree!

*Clive Sansom*



## CLIVE SANSOM

Clive Sansom (1910 – 1981) was an English-born Tasmanian poet and playwright. He was also an environmentalist, who became the founding patron of the Tasmanian Wilderness Society. He married the poet Ruth Large, a Tasmanian, in 1937, at the Quaker Friends Meeting House in Winchmore Hill. He subsequently joined the Quakers and was a conscientious objector during the Second World War. His best known collection of poems, *The Witnesses*, a portrait of Christ seen through the eyes of 35 friends, enemies and acquaintances, was joint winner of the Festival of Britain Poetry Prize in 1950 and has been performed all over the world. *The Cathedral* tells of the creation and life of a medieval church. Sansom