

## Konik Bach

Published: January 13, 2026, 2:56 pm

---

As I suggested I might do, I was out in the countryside yesterday. There was good birdwatching to be done on the Kingfisher Bridge nature reserve, with a green woodpecker perhaps the nicest bird of the day.

But, whilst we were out, we (my wife and me) tried an experiment. Some of the reserve's Konik ponies were nearby as we walked, albeit separated by a fence. There was also no one nearby. So we played them some music.

Taylor Swift made no impression.

But Bach's cello suite No 1 did. Without exception, they noticed that, and this pony was fascinated, walking towards us when previously 5 metres distant, and then following us as we walked on. His or her ears (I did not check) were moving constantly in response to the music. It clearly resonated in a way pleasing to them.



It is well known that cows respond to music. This pony, at least, liked Bach.

It was an odd moment of connection where connections seem so much under threat.