

A National Gallery/Access to Art triumphant collaboration!

On the 29th June 2009, A2A made it possible for over 150 disabled people to visit the National Gallery at an extraordinary access event.

Access to Art provided accessible transport with 12 minibuses and A2A volunteers provided one to one assistance for visitors at the event. Others travelled in from across London by taxi and other accessible vehicles.

Three paintings were lowered so that wheelchair users could take a closer look; including Van Gogh's *Sunflowers*, Constable's *Hay Wain* and Monet's *The Gare Saint Lazar*. Visitors were treated to songs and music of the period to enhance the interpretation of the collection.

Other events included an interpreted talk for deaf visitors and a detailed verbal description on Van Gogh's *Chair*, which included object handling for blind and partially sighted visitors.

One members said " *It was an inspired idea, beautifully carried to fulfilment. The atmosphere was delightful and it was such a treat to be able to see some of the museum's most popular treasures without the usual hindrances of height and crowd. Not only that, but you provided entertaining lectures and music too! A triumph!*"



A2A members and friends outside the National Gallery with Gallery Director, Nicolas Penny (centre)