

## Partners in Advocacy visits Holyrood

On 1st September 2009 Daniel Kopasker and I went to the Scottish Parliament as part of a project to promote Partners in Advocacy and hopefully win support from MSPs. The event took place over three days, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Representatives from each of the four Partners in Advocacy offices ran a stall at different times on different days.

Daniel and I were at the stall on Wednesday afternoon. We arrived around 1 pm when we met up with a group from the East Lothian branch who had been on the stall in the morning. We all gathered together for a photograph. The stall was situated outside the Debating Chamber so the politicians could see us as they went in and out.



Two key debates were taking place on this day, Al Megrahi in the morning and Diagio in the afternoon. Several MSPs came over to speak to us and we were able to tell them about Partners In Advocacy and what we are about. John Park, the shadow business secretary spoke to us. Shona Robison the Minister for Health and MSP for Dundee East gave me her business card. We spoke to Marilyn Glenning a list MSP for Mid Scotland and Fife. We had a chat with the former First Minister Jack McConnell. Mr McConnell comes from the Isle of Arran where I have gone on holiday a lot, which I was able to tell him about. I found my trip to Holyrood very worthwhile. I really enjoyed it.

Douglas Brown

