



Dr Feelgood, 1975

Transcription of excerpts from interviews with
David Roberts and Will Stone (2018)

David: The sitting on the floor stopped, and I've got a very distinct memory of the gig at which that stopped at; the first time Dr Feelgood came, and I was very, very excited about Dr Feelgood coming. John Peel had been playing them. And they came to Malvern, and they came, they shambled onto the stage and everybody's sitting cross legged on the floor waiting for them to turn up, and for some reason they hadn't done the sound check, and they started tuning up, and there were some shouts from the hall, you know, "Get on with it," etc. And then Wilko Johnson just hit three or four chords, charged across the stage in the way that, you know, Wilko still does to this day, bless him, and the whole place erupted. Everybody was on their feet within several bars of that first song. And I never saw anybody sit down at a Malvern Winter Gardens gig again.

Will: Well, I suppose the main thing I remember about those, the kind of the first gigs that I went to, probably up until about '75, was that everybody used to just sit on the floor. There was a lot of sitting on the floor. And you're kind of walking around people trying not to kind of tread on their hands. And I just thought, well that's what you do, you know, up until I was about kind of 14 that's what you did, you sat on the floor. And the big, the gig that changed all that was Dr Feelgood in either '75 or '76, when people stood up for the first time. And it really split the audience by two because there was a whole load of people shouting, "Sit down, sit down!" and a whole load of other people saying, "Stand up, stand up!"

*Transcripts of the full interviews are available from Rock Around the Hills
rockaroundthehills@gmail.com*