



**The Institution of
Railway Operators**

“Promoting excellence in railway operational management...”



WHAT'S ON!

Within the North West & North Wales Area...

THE 2011 KEYNOTE ADDRESS

**“VERNON BARKER, OBE
MD FIRST TRANSPENNINE EXPRESS
“Delivering great service every day”**

Thursday 10 February 2011

17:45 for 18:00 hours start

***The Board Room, Square One, Travis Street,
Manchester***

The IRO 2011 ‘Keynote Address’ – a highlight of the railway calendar in the North West – is being given by *Vernon Barker, MD of First TransPennine Express* - one of the most successful Train Operating Companies in the UK.

In September 2010, FTPE was named ‘Passenger Operator of the Year’ at the National Rail Awards, the latest success in a franchise story that has seen new 185 class trains introduced and the development and expansion of the rail market from Manchester to Scotland a record level of PPM and the highest patronage growth of any TOC.

FOR MORE INFORMATION SEE OVERLEAF



FIRST TRANSPENNINE – A BRIEF OVERVIEW

First TransPennine Express is a joint operation between First Group (55%) and Keolis (45%), which operates regular services in the north including services linking the west and east coasts of England across the Pennines. The Franchise was launched in 2004, for eight years with an optional extension of five years.

In March 2006 new three-car Class 185 units, built by Siemens in Germany entered service and took over most services. A new depot at Ardwick, about a mile east of Manchester Piccadilly was built as the base for the new fleet. Stabling and lighter maintenance is also provided at York and Cleethorpes. From December 2007, the FTPE network expanded to serve Glasgow and Edinburgh. Since then the service frequency has been increased.

**For further information and to book a place at the
2011 KEYNOTE ADDRESS
please contact the Event Champion for the meeting:
Chris Nutton at chris.nutton@firstgroup.com**

**For further information about any other IRO NW&NW Area
activities, please contact Regional Secretary Carl Philips:
carlphillips.iro@googlemail.com**