

Kenny set for splashdown at can film festival

By FLEUR LEYDEN

GLEN Preusker was the first person to install a flat-screen TV inside a portable toilet.

But the boss of Splashdown, one of Australia's biggest portable toilet hire companies, now has a bigger claim to fame.

With turnover of about \$3.5 million the Melbourne-based company is not in the same league as investment bank Babcock & Brown, which has in part bankrolled the highly successful Australian movie *Jindabyne*.

But Mr Preusker's company has stumped up all the funds for the local production *Kenny*, a

mockumentary about a plumber who works at Splashdown.

An old friend of filmmaker brothers Clayton and Shane Jacobson — Clayton directed and Shane starred in the film — Mr Preusker, 46, said he agreed to finance the venture because he believed in the story.

"I thought it stacked up," he said. "I hope the guys who do these tough sort of jobs — and someone's got to do it — will be thought of in higher esteem."

Today's national release of *Kenny* follows the successful launch of a shorter version at the St Kilda Film Festival.

Although coy about the funds

he sank into the venture, Mr Preusker said he would get a tax break on his investment.

"I'll do it hard for a couple of years if the film doesn't work, but that's something I'm sort of prepared to do," he said.

"Everything about business is about input and output — result in, result out — same as my dunny business."

Mr Preusker left school at 15 to work at his grandfather's plumbing business and, with his cousin, took it from a turnover of \$350,000 to \$1.2 million in two years. He founded Splashdown 20 years ago this year.



Star cistern . . . Glen Preusker is keeping the lid on the amount he invested in *Kenny*, a film about a portable loo plumber